



APRIL No.10

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**CRIME-BUSTING PRIVATE EYE**

THE MANHUNT IS ON  
WITH ORDERS TO GET  
**KEN SHANNON**  
DEAD OR ALIVE!  
READ -  
**IN THE SHADOW  
OF THE CHAIR**



**WANTED**



**KEN SHANNON  
FOR MURDER**

SUSPECT IS ARMED  
PROCEED WITH CAUTION

ANY INFORMATION AS TO  
HIS WHEREABOUTS SHOULD  
IMMEDIATELY BE COMMUNI-  
CATED TO POLICE HEADQUAR-  
TERS!



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# Ken Shannon



ON MY JOB, I'VE NEVER THOUGHT MUCH ABOUT THE FEELINGS OF THE RATS I'VE RUN TO EARTH! I'VE TRICKED, TRAPPED, SLUGGED AND BLASTED MY WAY TO THE SOLUTION OF MANY A CASE! THAT'S ALL CHANGED NOW! A MAN-HUNT WILL NEVER BE THE SAME... NOT SINCE THE GORY MURDER-FRAME THAT TURNED ME INTO A FUGITIVE FROM THE LAW... TRAPPED LIKE A RAT...

**IN THE SHADOW OF THE CHAIR!**



**TOM PEEP**

HIS KEYHOLE SNOOPING PUT MURDER ON TELEVISION!



**AUGIE SANDS**

A REAL TOUGH BOY, UNTIL SOMEBODY PARTED HIS HAIR CLEAR DOWN TO HIS ADAM'S APPLE!



**LINDA DRAKE**

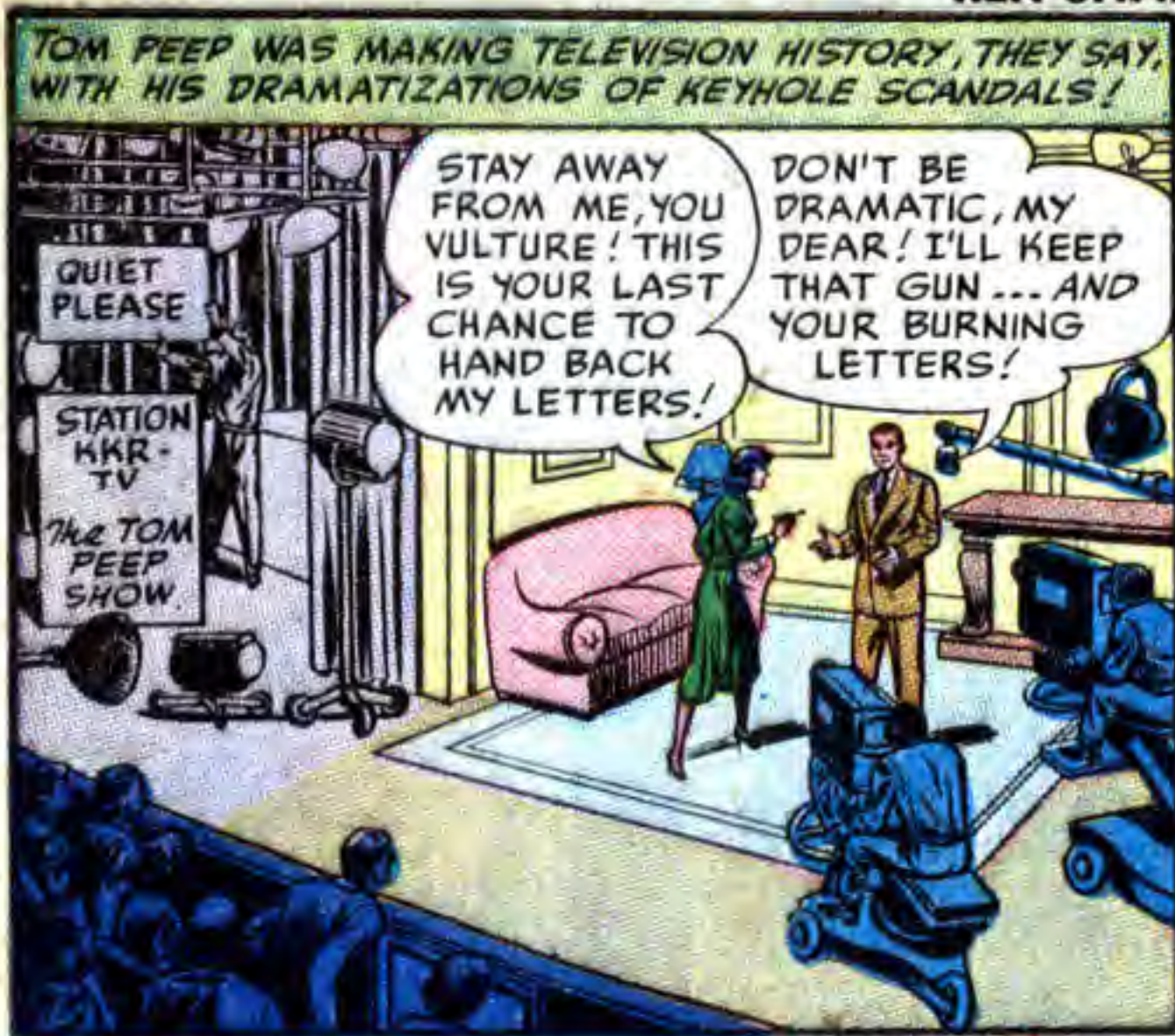
SHE COULD AFFORD TO PAY FOR ANYTHING... EXCEPT BLACKMAIL!



**LIEUTENANT ART CLYDE OF HOMICIDE**

HE'D STILL BE MY PAL... EVEN WHEN HE STRAPPED ME IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR!





STAY AWAY FROM ME, YOU VULTURE! THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO HAND BACK MY LETTERS!

DON'T BE DRAMATIC, MY DEAR! I'LL KEEP THAT GUN... AND YOUR BURNING LETTERS!

I DON'T GO FOR GARBAGE, USUALLY, BUT WITH TWO FREE PASSES AND AN EVENING TO KILL, I LET MY SECRETARY, DEE DEE DAWSON, TALK ME INTO SEEING THE SHOW!



I WARNED YOU!

NO... ARGHHH!



THERE SHE GOES, MY FRIENDS... THE MYSTERY HEIRESS WHO MURDERED PLAYBOY TEDDY RALLS! CAN YOU GUESS HER IDENTITY? HA-HA-HA!

GAHH! LET'S GET OUT OF THIS MUCK-HEAP BEFORE MY STOMACH TURNS!



THE POLICE DON'T KNOW, EITHER... BUT TOM PEEP KNOWS! MAYBE NEXT WEEK, DEAR FANS, I'LL GIVE YOU A LITTLE HINT!



I'LL SEE YOU ALL AT THE KEYHOLE NEXT WEEK... SAME TIME, SAME STATION!

UGH! I'D LIKE TO BE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT KEYHOLE, WITH A NICE, LONG HATPIN!



THAT PROGRAM IS NOTHING BUT BLACK-MAIL HINTS! WHY DO THEY LET HIM GO ON TELEVISION?

NO MAJOR TV STATION WOULD, DEE DEE! BUT HE'S JUST SLIPPERY ENOUGH TO STAY INSIDE THE LAW AND THE MORONS LOVE HIM!



WE ROUNDED A CORNER OF THE EXIT CORRIDOR AND... WHAM!

EEEK!

OOOFF!

OWOO!



THE GAL WAS BEAUTIFUL, BUT I HAD MORE SERIOUS THINGS ON MY MIND!

I'M SO SORRY! FORGIVE ME FOR RUNNING OFF, BUT...

OH, NO YOU DON'T, HONEY! HOLD HER, DEE DEE!



HMM! I THOUGHT I RECOGNIZED THE GENTLE TOUCH OF A ROD ON MY SKULL! GOT ANY SPECIAL TARGET IN MIND, SIS? TOM PEEP, MAYBE?

LET ME GO! HOW DARE YOU SNOOP IN MY PURSE? I HATE YOU...



SOMETIMES I HATE MYSELF... BUT IT'S CLOSED SEASON ON RATS RIGHT NOW, HONEY! THE GAME WARDEN WOULD GET YOU SURE!

WAIT, KEN! I THINK I KNOW THE SCORE! LET ME TALK TO HER ALONE FOR A MOMENT!

THE DAY THEY HANDED OUT BRAINS, MY GORGEOUS SECRETARY WAS RIGHT THERE WITH A BASKET! WITHIN FIVE MINUTES...



IT'S OKAY, KEN! WHERE CAN WE ALL GO FOR A NICE QUIET TALK?

HOW ABOUT THE BLUE FAN? THEY SHOULD HAVE AN EMPTY CORNER AT THIS TIME OF EVENING! IT'S JUST DOWN THE STREET!



KEN, THIS IS LINDA DRAKE! I WAS SURE I RECOGNIZED HER FROM HER PICTURES IN THE PAPER!

LINDA DRA...! GRAWWK! SUDDENLY A LOT OF THINGS ARE BECOMING CLEAR! THEN YOU MUST BE...



LINDA DRAKE... THE ORPHAN HEIRESS, WITH MORE MILLIONS THAN I'VE GOT TEN-SPOTS!

YES, MR. SHANNON! I WAS THE HEIRESS TOM PEEP WAS HINTING ABOUT IN HIS SHOW! I KILLED PLAYBOY TEDDY RALLS!

UH-UH! LET'S STICK TO FACTS, SUGAR! I REMEMBER THE TEDDY RALLS CASE VERY WELL!



RALLS WASN'T SHOT AT ALL! HE DIED OF A HEART ATTACK!

EXACTLY! TAKE A LOOK AT MY GUN, MR. SHANNON! A GOOD LOOK!



HOLY HOMICIDE! ONE OF THOSE MAKE-BELIEVE GUNS THAT ONLY SHOOTS BLANKS!





WHILE THE WAITER BROUGHT OUR ORDERS, I ADDED THINGS UP... AND GOT A NASTY TOTAL!

THEN YOU WERE AT RALLS' HOUSE! YOU SHOT A BLANK TO SCARE HIM... AND HIS ROTTEN HEART GAVE OUT!

KEN, HOW AWFUL! THE POLICE CAN'T MAKE MURDER OUT OF THAT!

MAYBE NOT, WITHOUT A WITNESS, BUT THEY'D MAKE A NASTY TRY!

I'M AFRAID THERE WAS A WITNESS! AUGIE SANDS, PEEP'S BODYGUARD, WAS WORKING FOR RALLS THEN! HE MUST HAVE SEEN IT AND TOLD PEEP!

I'D PAY ANYTHING TO GET OUT OF THIS... BUT I WON'T PAY BLACK-MAIL! I'LL TELL THE POLICE MYSELF!

GOOD GIRL! BUT LET ME HAVE A TRY FIRST! I'VE ALWAYS WANTED AN EXCUSE TO LAND ON THAT SLIMY PEEP AND HIS PET GOON!



YOU'RE BOTH WONDERFUL! I WAS SO DESPERATE TONIGHT I ALMOST HOPED TOM PEEP HAD A WEAK HEART, TOO!

HE MAY HAVE WHEN I'M THROUGH WITH HIM, LINDA! GET SOME REST AND I'LL CALL YOU WHEN I HAVE NEWS!



BY THE TIME WE GOT TO PEEP'S HOTEL, I WAS REALLY BURNING!

BUT I WANT TO GO UP WITH YOU, KEN!

YOU WOULDN'T ENJOY WHAT I'M LIABLE TO DO TO THAT SKUNK, DEE DEE! SIT HERE AND SEE IF ANYBODY ELSE TRIES TO USE HIS ELEVATOR!



PEEP LIKES PRIVACY AND SO DO I!

I'D HEARD THE ELEVATOR WAS THE ONLY WAY IN AND OUT OF TOM PEEP'S PENTHOUSE! A CHAIR BLOCKED THE AUTOMATIC DOOR SO THE ELEVATOR WOULDN'T RUN!



BY A STRANGE COINCIDENCE, PEEP'S FRONT DOOR WASN'T LOCKED SO I WALKED IN!

HE MUST BE IN! THAT SOUNDED LIKE A FILING CASE BEING SLAMMED SHUT!

**SLAM!**









I WAS TALKING TO COVER A COLD CHILL! IF ART CLYDE SQUEEZED ANYTHING ABOUT LINDA DRAKE OUT OF THOSE WORMS...

TOO MANY PEOPLE YOU DON'T LIKE HAVE ACCIDENTS, KEN! ONE DAY YOU'LL GO TOO FAR!

ER... RIGHT NOW WE'LL GO UP WITH YOU, ART! I'M CURIOUS ABOUT THAT SHOW MYSELF!

I'LL BET YOU ARE! I'VE GOT A HUNCH YOUR CLIENT IS THE GIRL WE'RE LOOKING FOR!

LIEUTENANT CLYDE TRIED TO PUMP ME, KENNY, BUT I SEEMED TO BE HAVING AMNESIA OR SOMETHING! MY MEMORY IS SO BAD, THESE DAYS!



WE WALKED IN AND SUDDENLY I WASN'T WORRIED ANY MORE ABOUT LINDA! I WAS WORRIED STIFF ABOUT ME!

OOO!

AWRRK! WHA... WHAT HAPPENED TO AUGIE?



WHY, YOU SAID YOURSELF HE HAD A LITTLE ACCIDENT! YOU OUGHTA KNOW, KEN! YOU WERE HERE!

BUT... BUT, I ONLY KNOCKED HIM AROUND! HE WAS OKAY WHEN I LEFT! THERE'S SOMEBODY ELSE UP HERE! THERE'S GOT TO BE!



BUT THERE WASN'T... AND I GUESS I KNEW IT FROM THE START!

NO... NOBODY ANYWHERE! BUT ART, THERE'S GOT TO BE! I DIDN'T PART AUGIE'S SKULL WITH A BOOK END, OR ANYTHING ELSE!

LOOK, KEN! WE FOUND NOBODY! THE STAIRWAY IS UNDER REPAIR! THE ONLY WAY DOWN IS BY THE ELEVATOR, AND WE WERE USING THAT! ADD IT YOURSELF...

ARE YOU SERIOUS? ART, WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS FOR YEARS...

THIS IS MURDER, KEN, AND MURDER IS MY BUSINESS! I'M SORRY... BUT STICK OUT YOUR WRIST!



SO I STUCK OUT MY WRIST! COULD I HELP IT IF MY FIST WAS ATTACHED?

HEY... AGHHH!

RUN, DEE DEE! RUN FOR THE ELEVATOR!









I WON'T SAY I HAD THE GLIMMERINGS OF AN IDEA! I ONLY KNEW HOW THE MURDER MIGHT HAVE BEEN DONE!

ART'LL HAVE A STAKE-OUT AT THE OFFICE, OUR APARTMENTS AND EVERY PLACE HE THINKS I MIGHT SHOW UP!



IF ART'S GOT ANYBODY PLANTED IN THE GARAGE UNDER TOM PEEP'S HOTEL, I'M SUNK, BUT GOOD!

ORION HOTEL

ORION GARAGE PARKING



I WAS GAMBLING ALL OR NOTHING --- BUT I HAD TO HAVE PRIVACY!

HEY, HEY! WHADDA YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, BUB?

I'M MALASITING A KRONKLEEDER! STAY THERE AND I'LL BE RIGHT DOWN TO EXPLAIN!



YOU BETTER MAKE IT GOOD OR... AWRRRK!

THIS IS GOOD, FRIEND... GOOD FOR A FIRST CLASS FUNERAL IF YOU MAKE ONE YELP! LET'S GO TO YOUR OFFICE!



SAY! I'LL BET YOU... YOU... EULP!

YEAH, I'M SHANNON, THE KILLER! SO DON'T MAKE ME STRIKE AGAIN! PHONE THE HOTEL MANAGER AND GET HIM DOWN HERE FAST... ALONE!



THE 'GUY WAS SCARED! HE GOBBLED SOMETHING ABOUT AN ACCIDENT AND IT WORKED!

WHAT'S THE TROUBLE, JOHNSON? WHAT... AWRRRK! SH-SHANNON!

KILLER SHANNON, THEY CALL ME! SIT DOWN, BERCH, AND LOOSEN YOUR TONSILS! YOU'VE GOT SOME TALKING TO DO!



WHERE IS IT, BERCH? WHERE IS THE SECRET ELEVATOR FROM THE GARAGE TO TOM PEEP'S PENTHOUSE?

I CAN'T TELL Y... GUG! I MEAN, I DON'T KNOW... I MEAN, THERE ISN'T ANY! JUST THE ELEVATOR FROM THE LOBBY! I SWEAR...!



OH, WELL! I GUESS I'VE GOT TO GET IT THE HARD WAY!

NO! NO, NO...



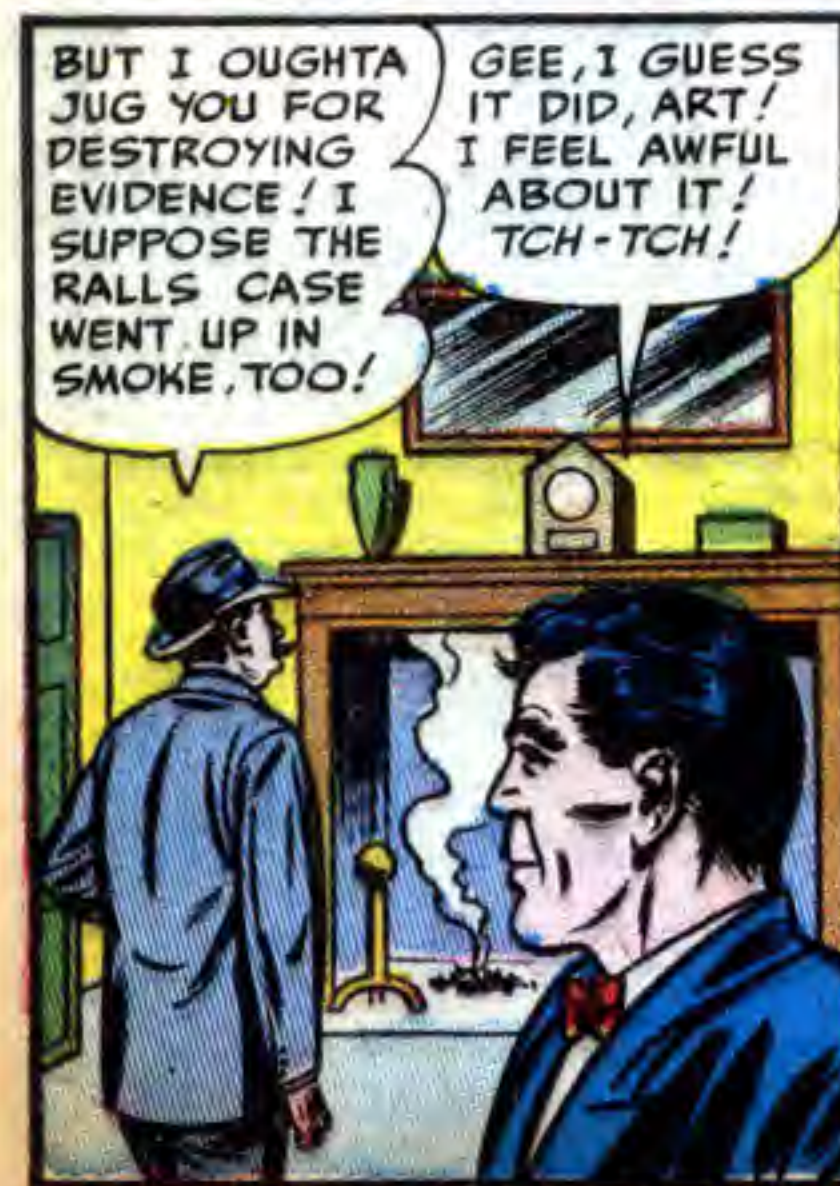




I PACKED THE SLEEPING BEAUTIES INTO A CLOSET AND SHOT UP TO THE PENTHOUSE! PEEP'S OFFICE WAS EMPTY!









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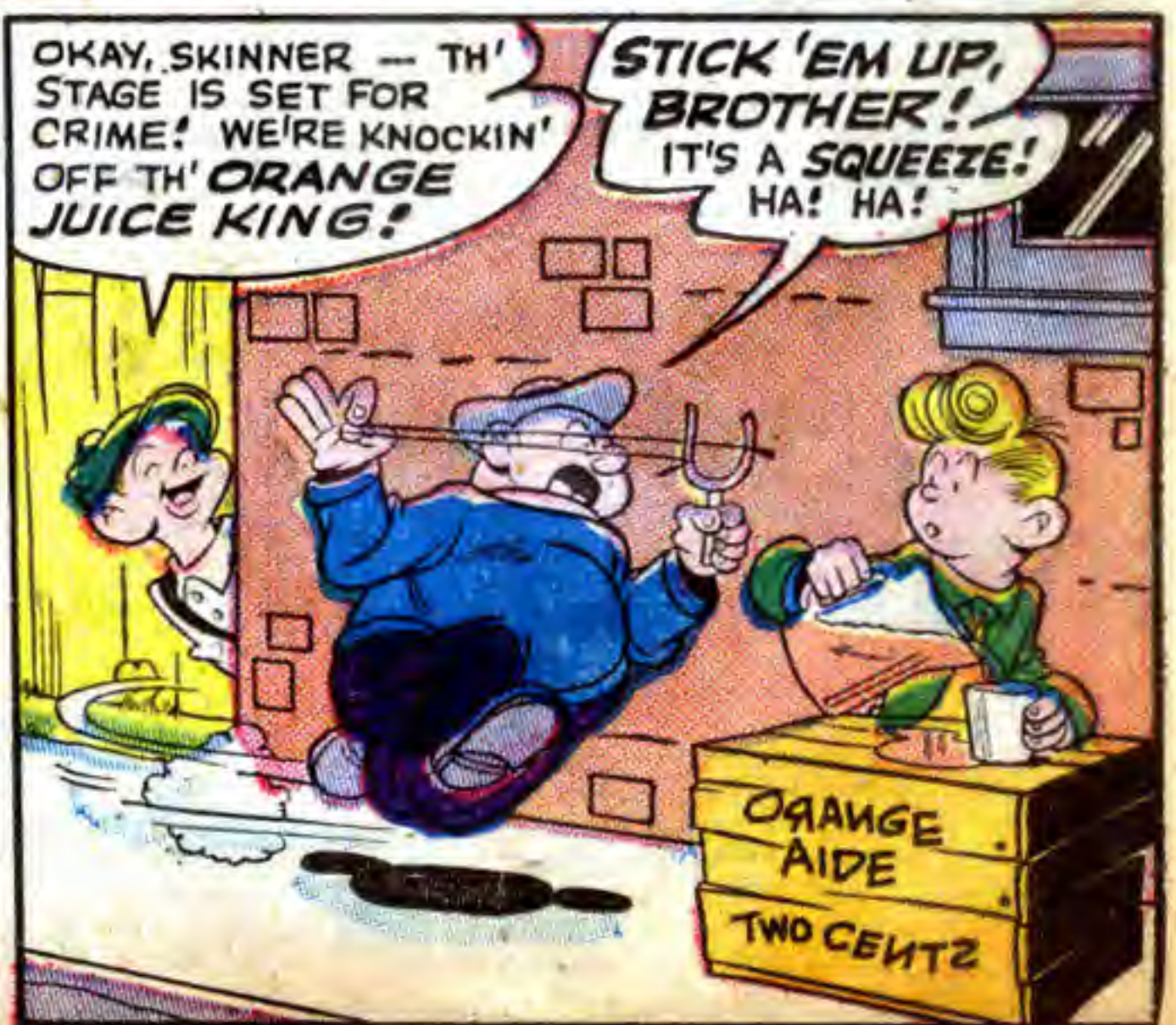
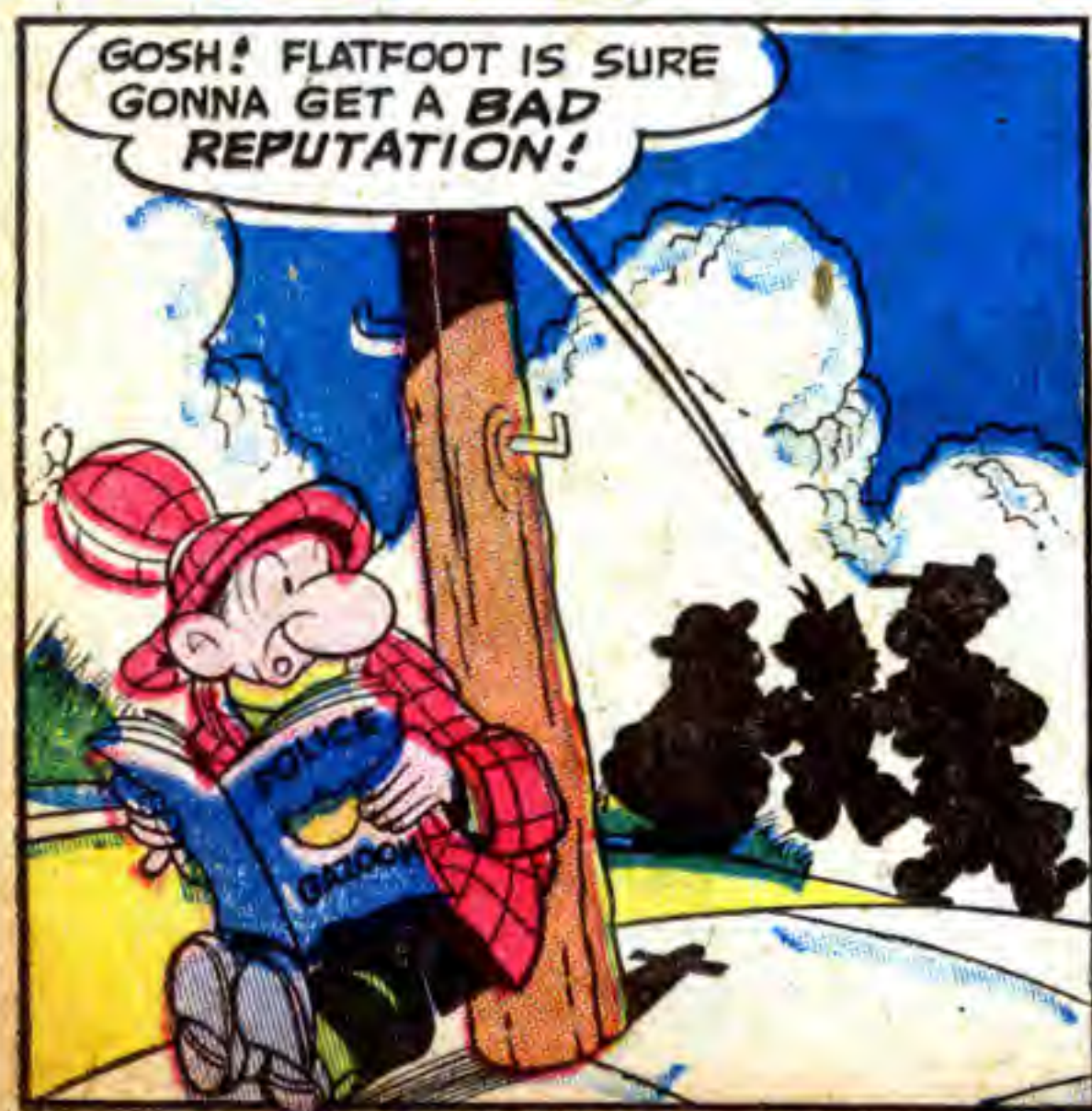
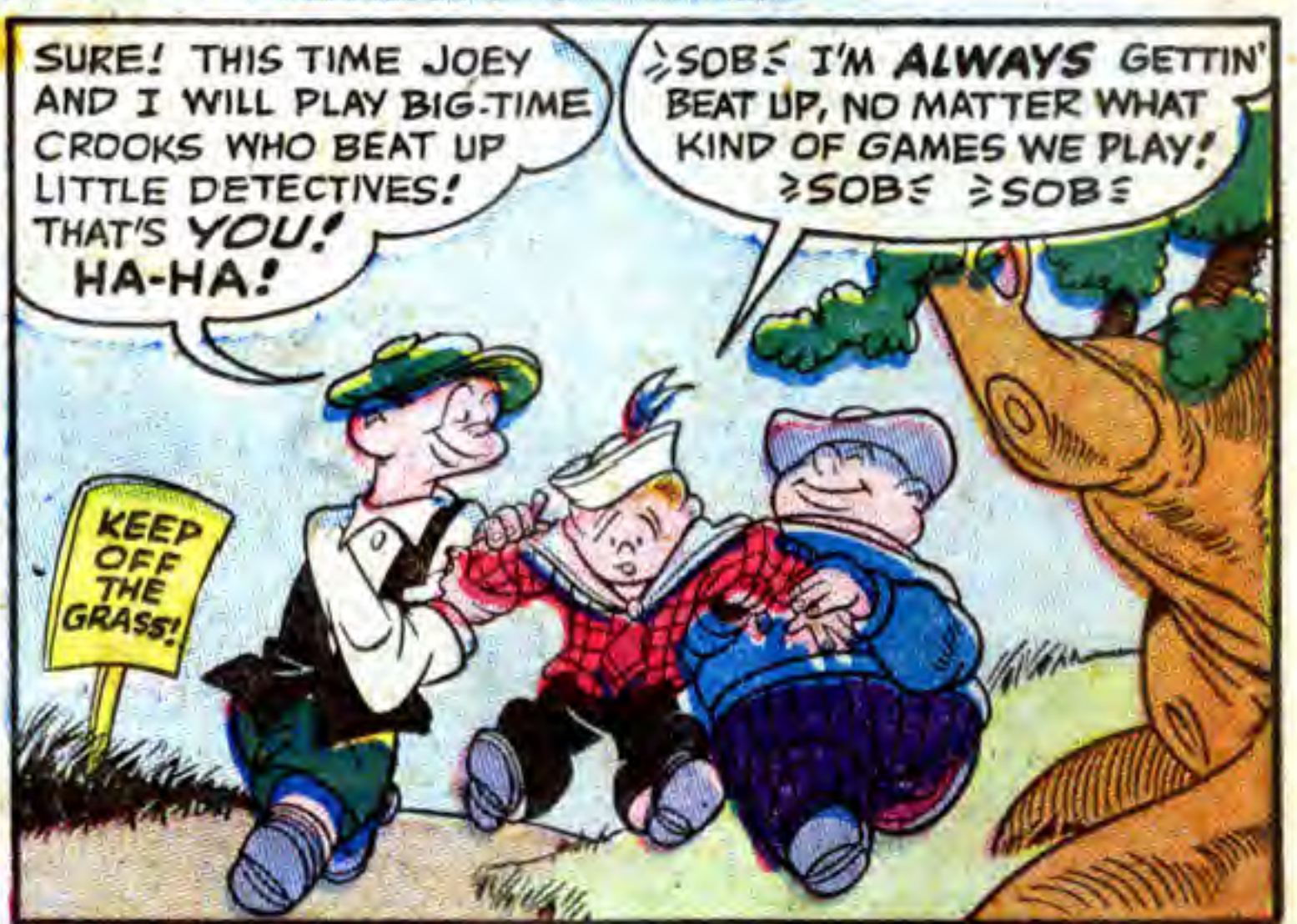
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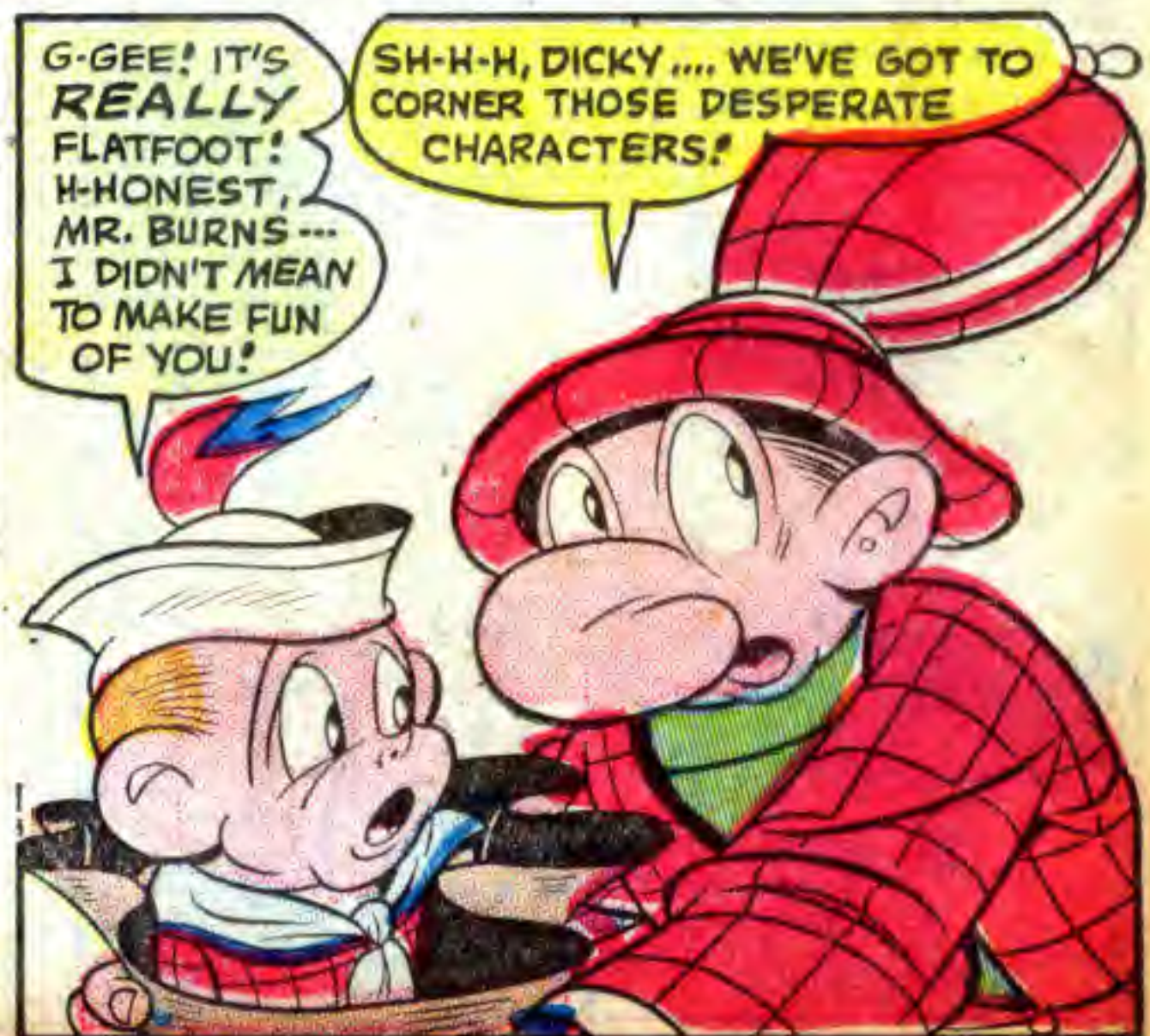
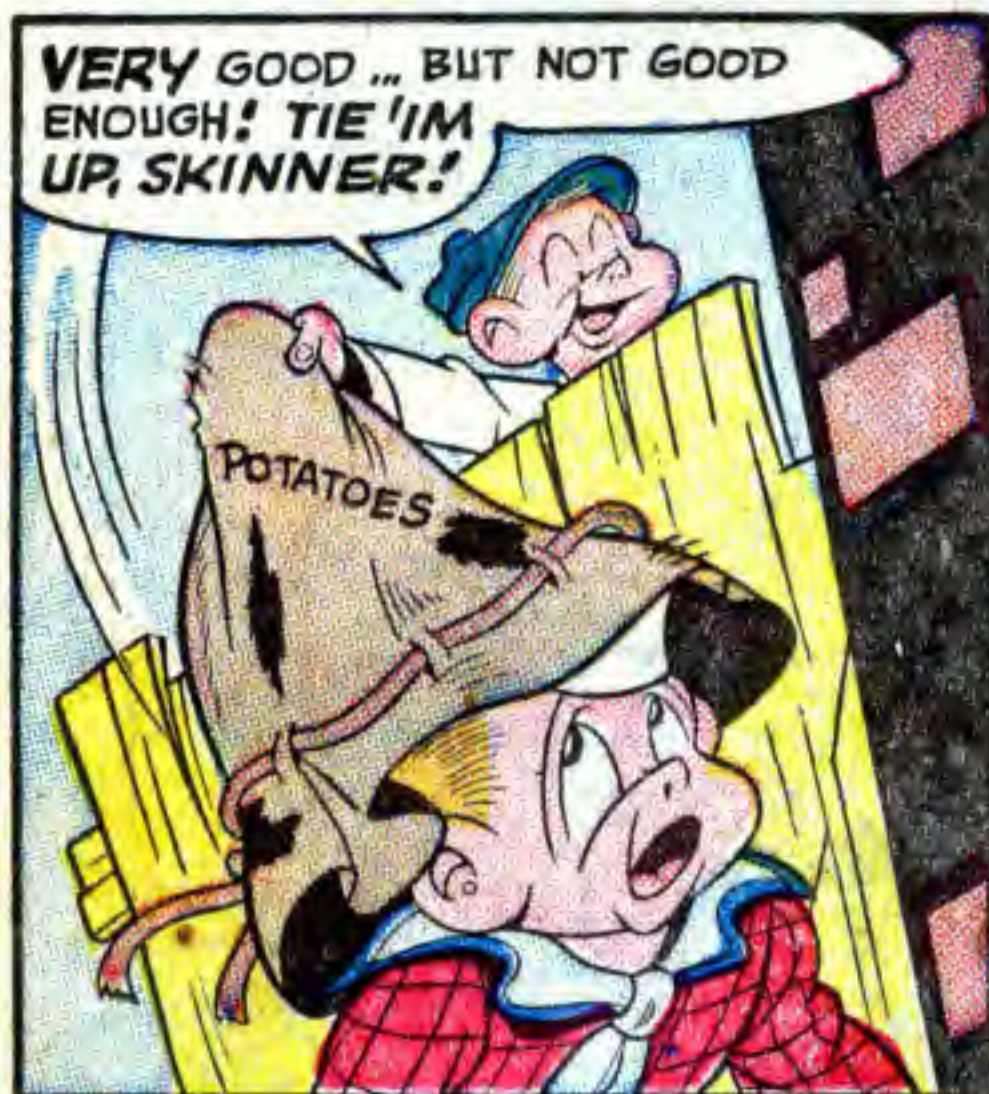
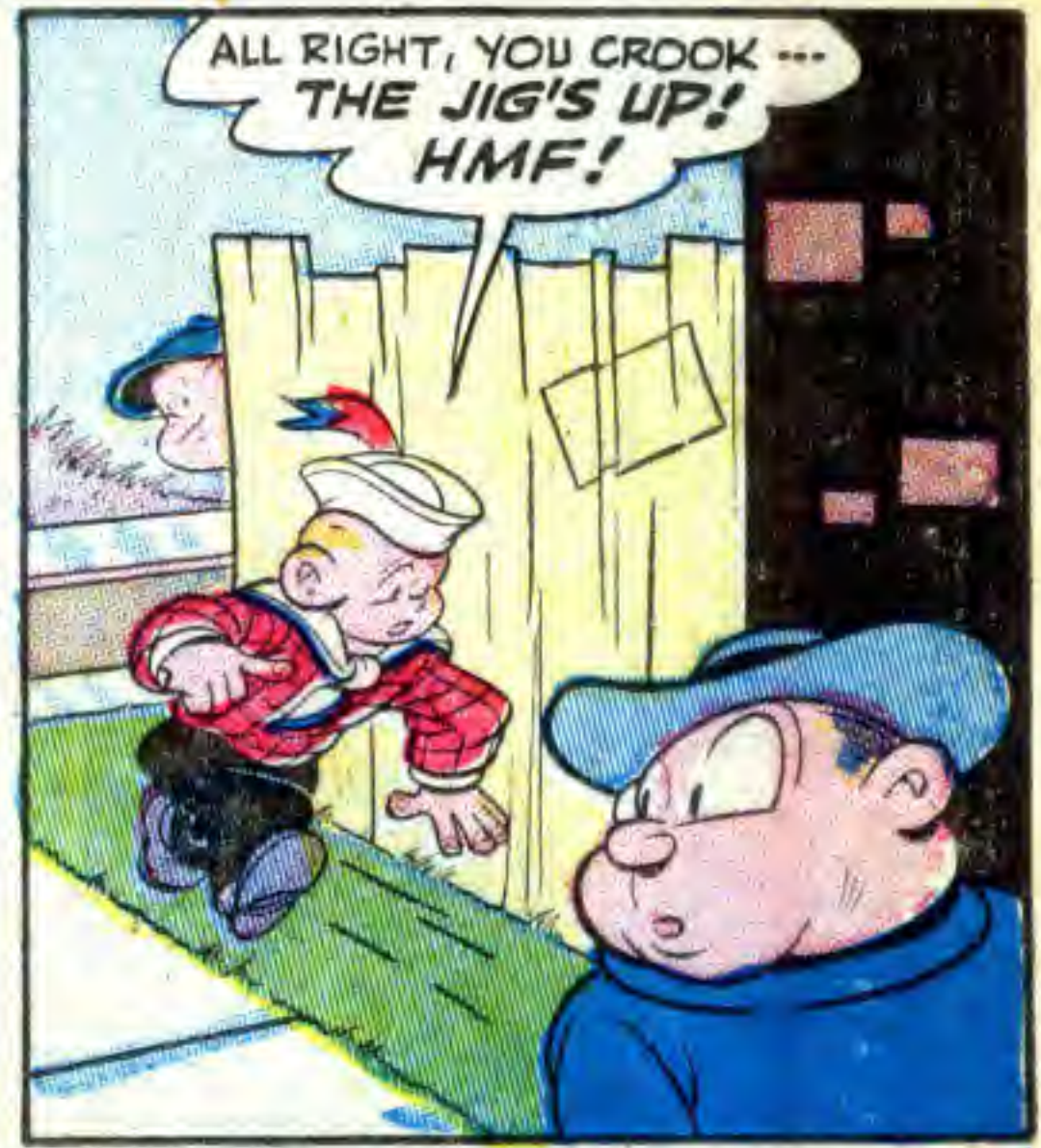
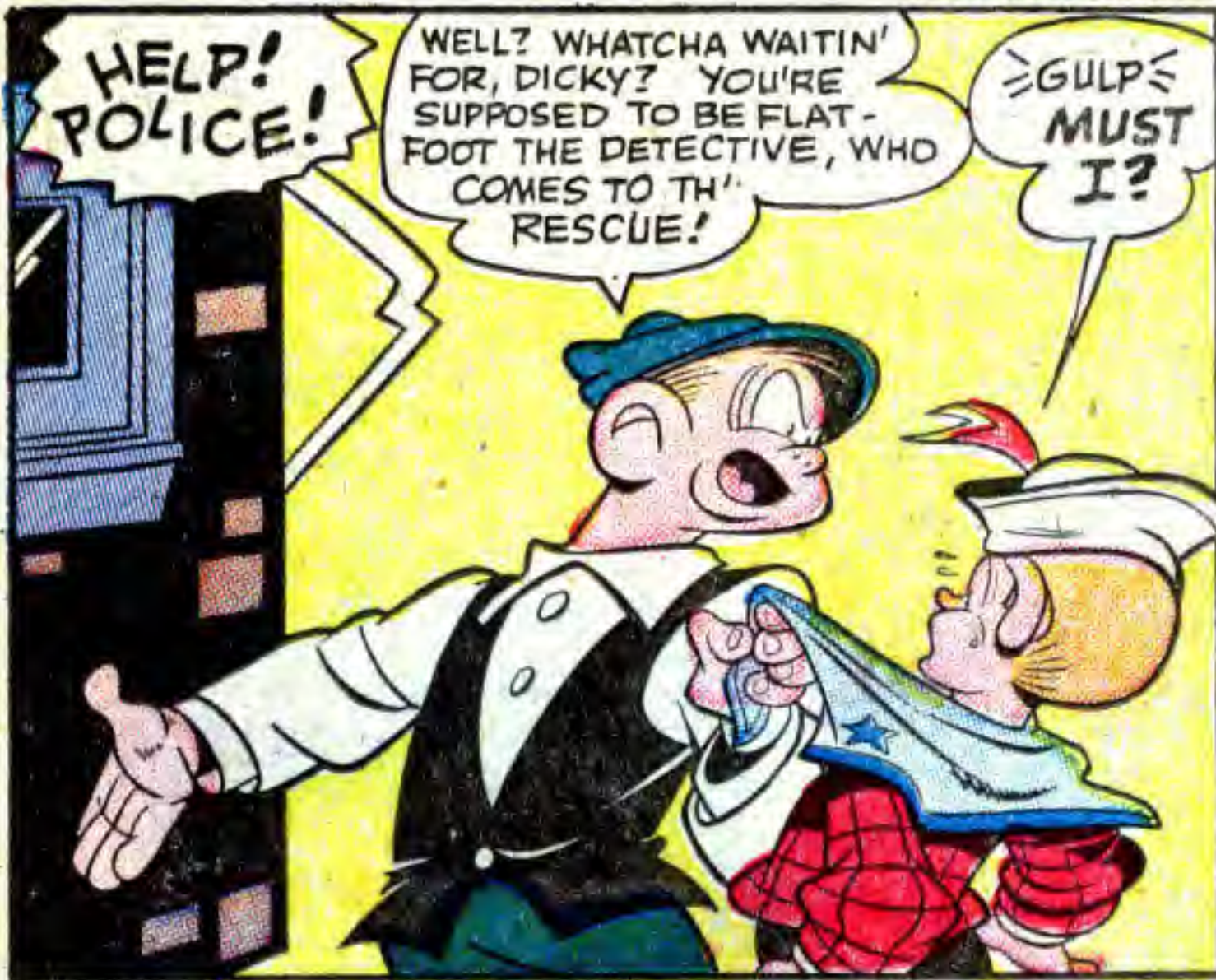
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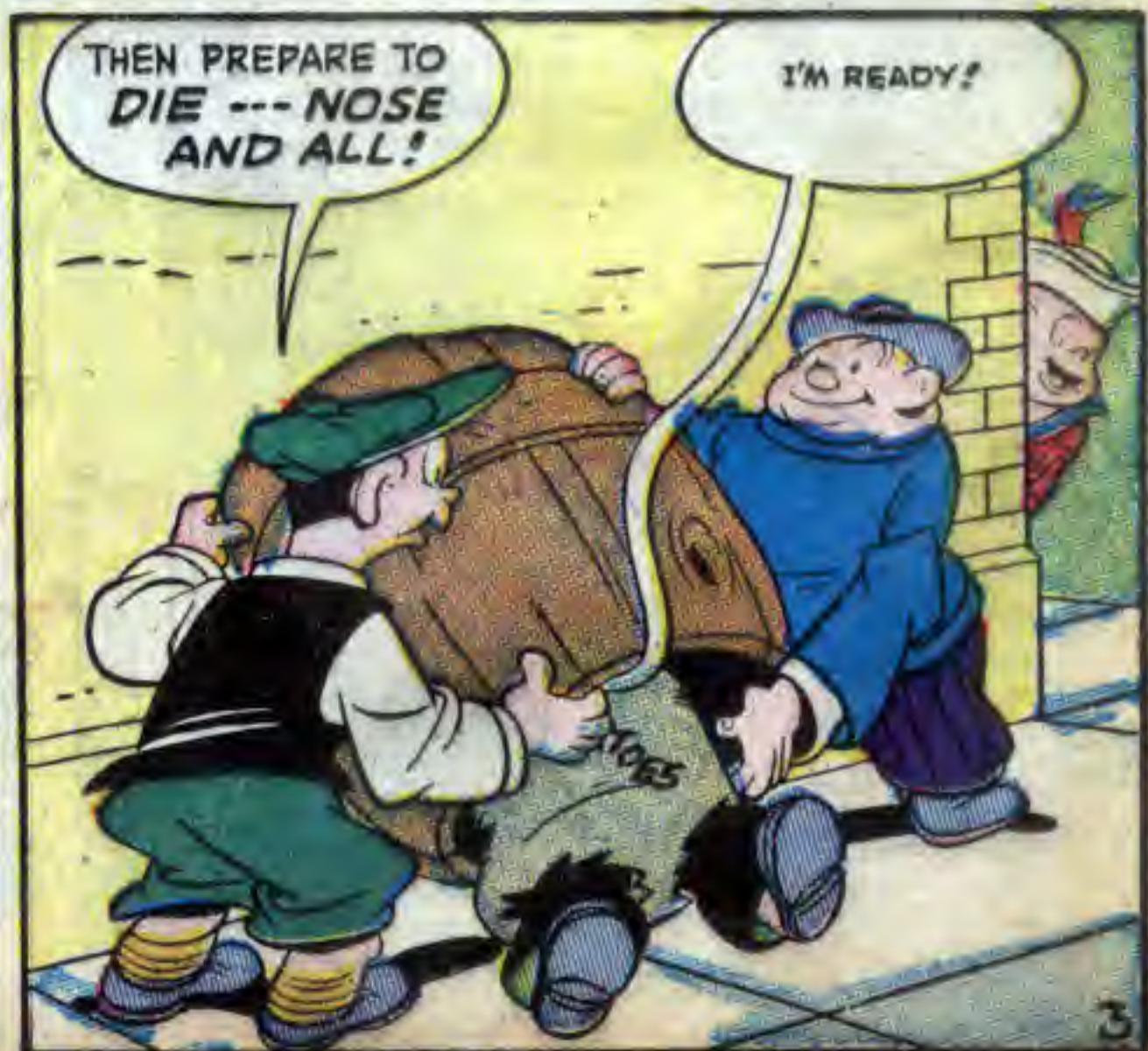
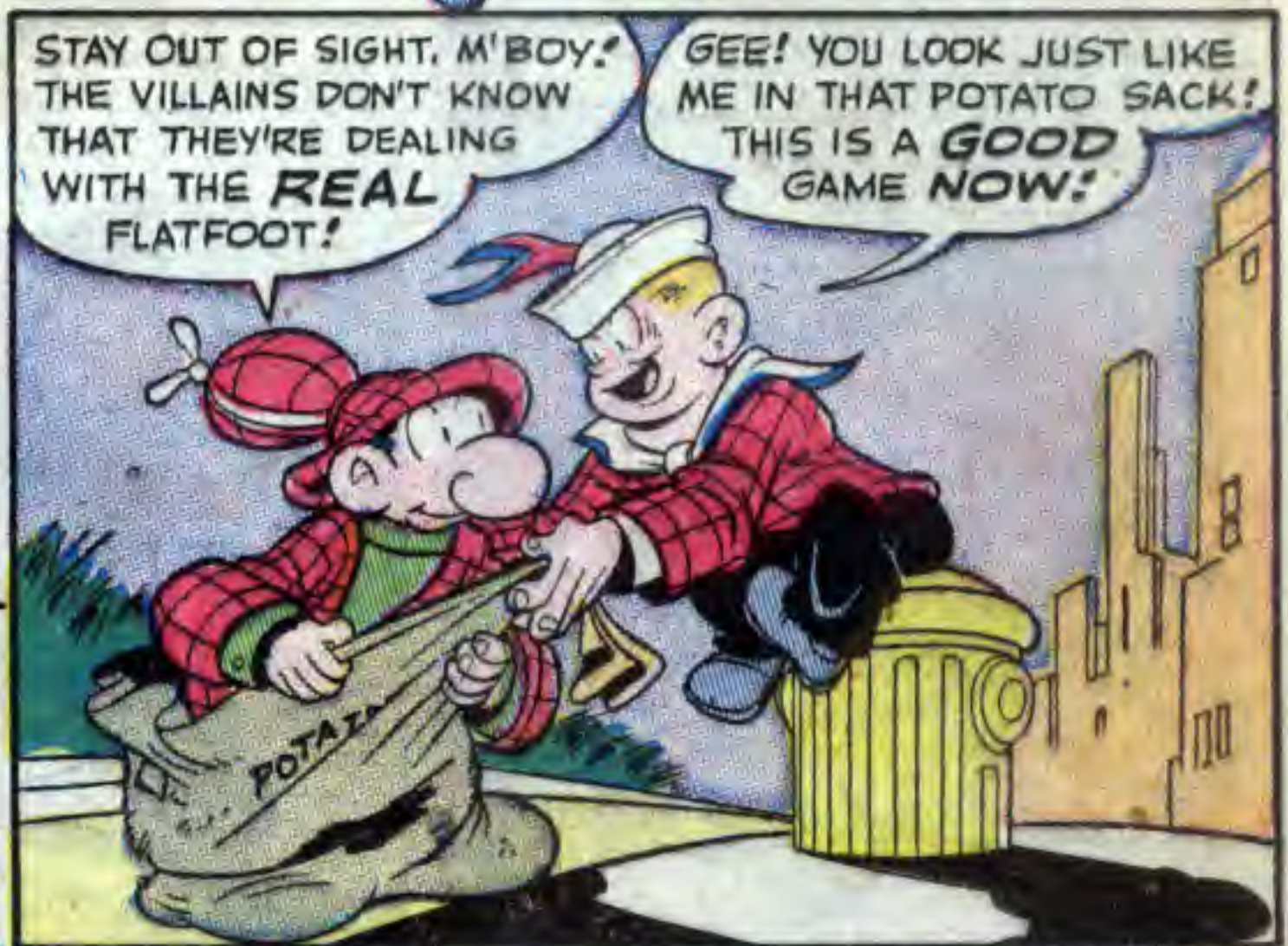










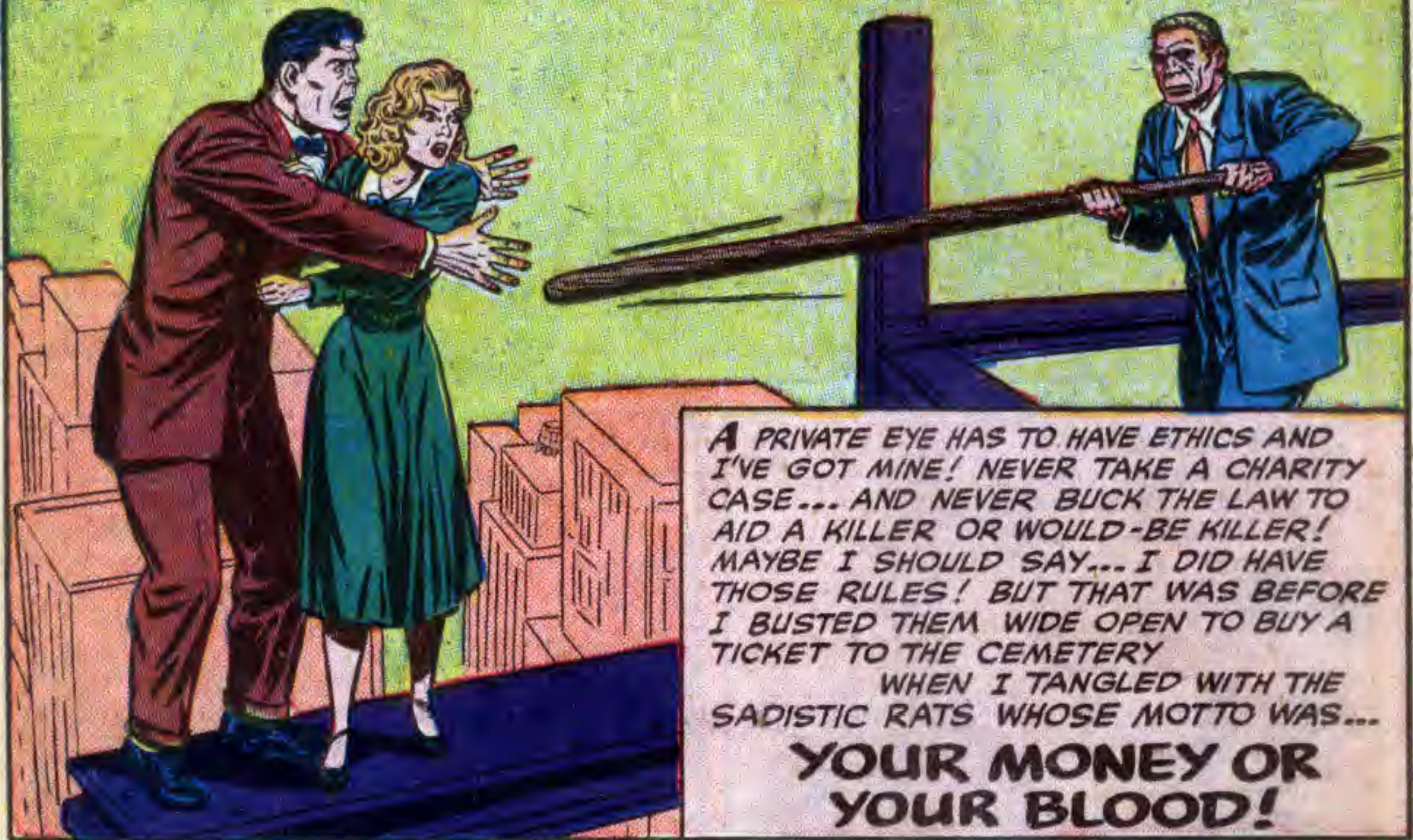








# Ken Shannon



A PRIVATE EYE HAS TO HAVE ETHICS AND I'VE GOT MINE! NEVER TAKE A CHARITY CASE... AND NEVER BUCK THE LAW TO AID A KILLER OR WOULD-BE KILLER! MAYBE I SHOULD SAY... I DID HAVE THOSE RULES! BUT THAT WAS BEFORE I BUSTED THEM WIDE OPEN TO BUY A TICKET TO THE CEMETERY

WHEN I TANGLED WITH THE SADISTIC RATS WHOSE MOTTO WAS...

**YOUR MONEY OR YOUR BLOOD!**



DOLLY CRANE

SHE'D NEVER KILLED BEFORE... BUT SHE WAS WILLING TO LEARN!



MART CRANE

WHERE HE WORKED YOU DIDN'T GET A SECOND CHANCE!

BOSTON BOGGS

HE ENJOYED BEATING PEOPLE UP! ...AND I ENJOYED BEATING HIM!



JACK MACO

HE DIDN'T MIND LENDING MONEY! HE KNEW YOU'D PAY UP... ONE WAY OR ANOTHER



MY SECRETARY, DEE DEE DAWSON, STARTS BOSSING ME FROM THE MOMENT I PICK HER UP IN THE MORNING!

HONESTLY, KEN, YOU'RE WORSE THAN A KID... WALKING A BLOCK OUT OF THE WAY JUST TO GAPE AT A CONSTRUCTION JOB!

IN THIS CASE, HONEY, I HAVE EYES ONLY FOR THE HANDSOME CHARACTERS WHO SHARE MY CURIOSITY!

SUDDENLY I SAW WHY BOSTON BOGGS, JACK MACO'S STRONG-ARM GOON, WAS HANGING AROUND!

LOOK! THAT UGLY MAN IS THREATENING A STEEL-WORKER!

THAT'S NO MAN, PET... THAT'S BOSTON BOGGS! HE WORKS FOR JACK MACO, THE LOAN SHARK, BEATING UP POOR MUGS WHO CAN'T PAY!

AND SEE THAT YOU HAVE IT TONIGHT... OR ELSE!

I'LL DO THE BEST I CAN! IF YOU'D ONLY GIVE ME A LITTLE TIME!





OKAY, SO I'M A TROUBLE-HUNTING IRISHMAN --- BUT THAT MEAT-HEAD ALWAYS AROUSED THE WORST IN ME!

GEE, BUT YOU'RE BIG AND STRONG, MISTER! TAKE OFF YOUR HAT AND SHOW US YOUR MUSCLE!

AWRRK, SHANNON! GET LOST, FUNNY GUY! AND KEEP OUTA MY HAIR IF YOU DON'T WANNA GET HURT!



NOW YOU'VE FRIGHTENED ME! COME, DEE DEE! WE'D BETTER GO ALONG BEFORE I GET TO SHAKING AND SHIVERING IN MY BOOTS!

OWOOF! WHY, YOU TWO-BIT NOSEY...



MISTER NOSEY TO YOU, PEASANT!

I'M GONNA... OOSH! OOSH!

HIT HIM AGAIN, KENNY! I DON'T LIKE HIS TYPE!



JUST AS YOU SAY, DEE DEE! CHIN UP, OLD CHAP!

GNNNGGG!

LET'S GO, KEN, BEFORE A CROWD GATHERS!



WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

SOME BUM IN A DISGRACEFUL CONDITION, OFFICER! HE'S PANHANDLING! WE DISTINCTLY HEARD HIM ASK A MAN FOR MONEY BEFORE HE PASSED OUT!



WE LEFT BLUBBER-BOY TO TALK HIS WAY OUT OF THAT ONE AND WENT ON TO A DULL DAY AT THE OFFICE! NO CASES CAME IN!

I'VE HEARD THAT NASTY JACK MACO CHARGES 50 % INTEREST ON LOANS AND PRACTICALLY KILLS ANYONE WHO CAN'T MEET A PAYMENT! WHY DON'T THE POLICE DO SOMETHING?

THEY'D LOVE TO IF THEY COULD GET ANY EVIDENCE!



BUT MACO'S VICTIMS ARE AFRAID TO SQUEAL... AND STOP LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT! I'M NOT STICKING MY NECK OUT FOR FREE!

OH, YOU MAKE ME TIRED, KEN SHANNON! IF I WERE A MAN I'D SMASH THAT FILTHY RACKET AS A PUBLIC SERVICE!





DEE DEE WAS STILL BOILING WHEN WE CALLED IT A DAY AND LOCKED UP THE TOMB I LAUGHINGLY CALL MY PLACE OF BUSINESS!

LOOK, PET... I HATE LOAN SHARKS, TOO, BUT I'D LOSE MY LICENSE AND MY CLIENTS IF I WENT AROUND BEING A CRUSADER! FORGET IT!

I KNOW! BUT IT SEEMS A SHAME! NICE PEOPLE GETTING ROBBED AND BEATEN UP AND NOBODY TRIES TO STOP IT!



WE PASSED THE CONSTRUCTION JOB AGAIN ON OUR WAY TO THE PARKING LOT!

THERE'S THAT FILTHY BOSTON AGAIN, KEN! HE WIGGLED OUT OF THE TROUBLE YOU MADE FOR HIM THIS MORNING!

YEAH! HE'S PROBABLY GOT SEVERAL CLIENTS ON THAT JOB AND... HEY!



CUT IT OUT, HONEY! THE SENTIMENT'S FINE BUT THE PRICE IS TOO HIGH!

LET ME GO! OH, LET ME SHOOT THAT BEAST BEFORE HE K-KILLS MY HUSBAND! I CAN'T STAND IT ANY LONGER!



AWRIGHT, NOW WHAT KIND OF A CUTE GAG HAVE YOU GOT COOKED UP, SHANNON? I OWE YOU PLENTY FOR THIS MORNING!

DRY UP AND BLOW, STUPID! I JUST SAVED YOU FROM A SLUG IN THE BACK... BUT DON'T ASK ME WHY! I'LL REGRET IT THE REST OF MY LIFE!



THE GAL... HER NAME WAS DOLLY CRANE... WAS HALF HYSTERICAL! WE WALKED HER BACK TO THE OFFICE! DEE DEE WAS RIGHT IN THERE, PITCHING!

MY HUSBAND'S A STEEL WORKER AND HE'S SO UPSET OVER THREATS TO HURT ME THAT I'M AFRAID HE'LL FALL! I F-FINALLY LOST MY HEAD!

POOR KID! BUT DON'T YOU WORRY! KEN SHANNON'S A DETECTIVE AND HE'LL STRAIGHTEN EVERYTHING OUT FOR YOU!

OH, SWELL!



MARTY BORROWED \$100 WHEN I WAS SICK! NOW THAT MACO CREATURE SAYS WE OWE \$200 AND IF WE GO TO THE POLICE, WE'LL GET HURT!

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT, MRS. CRANE! I'VE WANTED TO TANGLE WITH JACK MACO FOR A LONG TIME!



YOU RUN ALONG HOME AND TELL YOUR HUSBAND TO QUIT WORRYING, TOO! I'LL HANG ONTO YOUR GUN FOR NOW!

OH, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU, MR. SHANNON! WE WANT TO PAY OUR HONEST DEBTS, BUT THIS IS PLAIN ROBBERY!







DEE DEE AND I HAD DINNER DOWNTOWN!

THE NIGHT-BLOOMING BUZZARDS WILL BE OUT BY NOW, PET! LET'S GO DOWN TO MACO'S OFFICE AND TWIST HIS FAT NOSE!

I HOPE YOU TWIST IT RIGHT OFF, KEN!



WE WENT DOWN TO THE STORE NEAR THE WATERFRONT THAT SERVED AS A COVER FOR MACO'S DIRTY RACKETS!

STAY BACK AND LOOK SHARP, DEE DEE! MACO'S A NASTY CHARACTER TO TANGLE WITH AND HE'S NEVER LIKED ME!

I HOPE YOU SMASH HIM GOOD, KEN! I SAW HIM ONCE AND HE MADE MY SKIN CRAWL! HE'S LIKE A FAT TOAD!



THERE WAS NO SOUND AS WE BARGED THROUGH THE OUTER DOOR! SUDDENLY THE CHILLS STARTED DOWN MY SPINE!

CORRECTION, KITTEN... A DEAD FAT TOAD!

EEK! HE'S BEEN M-MURDERED!



ABOUT AN HOUR AGO, I'D GUESS! IT HAD TO BE SOMEBODY HE KNEW, BECAUSE NOBODY ELSE COULD HAVE GOTTEN THAT CLOSE TO HIM!

K-KEN, L-LOOK...



D.C.... DOLLY CRANE! OH, KEN, YOU DON'T SUPPOSE SHE...

NO, BUT SOMEBODY WANTED THE LAW TO THINK SO! THAT'S A PHONY PLANT IF I EVER SAW ONE! IT REEKS!



COME ON, PET! I'M TAKING THIS WHILE WE FACE THE CRANES, JUST TO BE SURE! WE'LL REPORT THIS TO ART CLYDE AT HOMICIDE LATER!

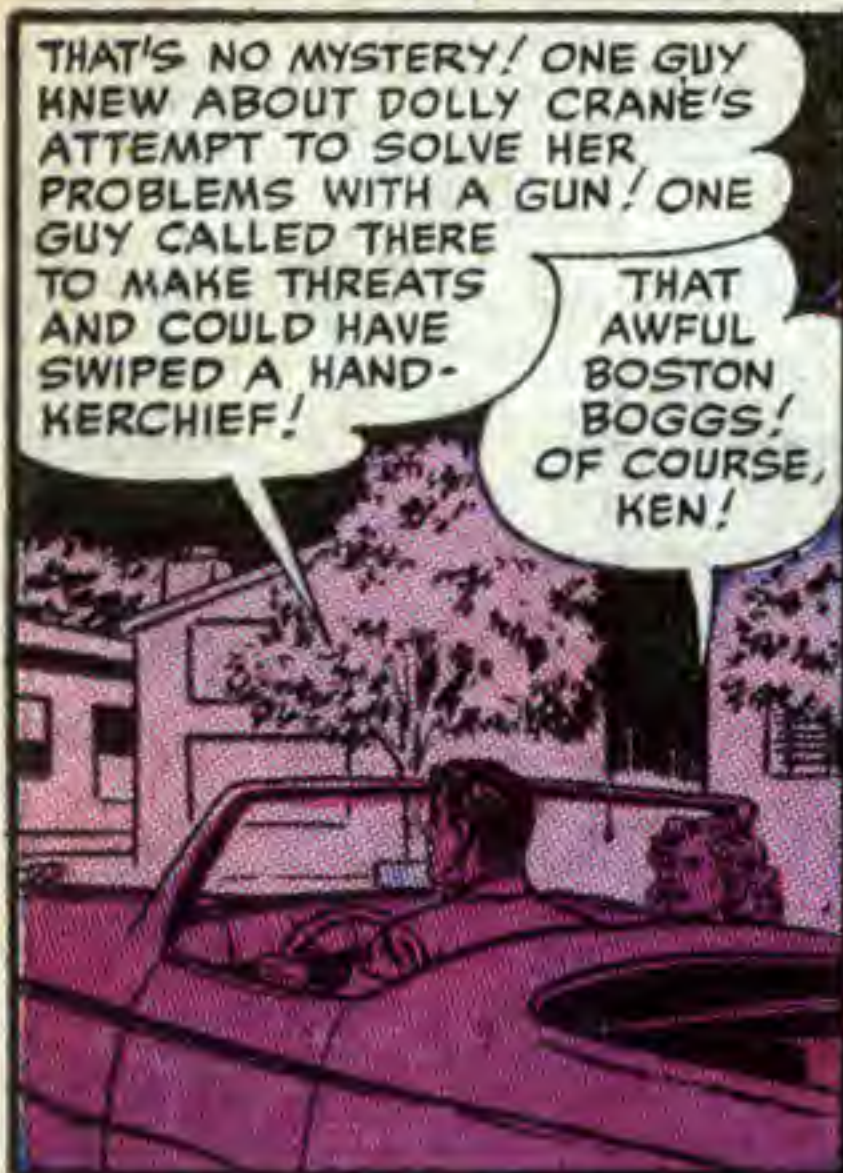
YOU GROWL A LOT, KENNY, BUT WHEN YOU START TO HELP SOMEONE YOU GO ALL OUT! THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU!



IF IT TURNS OUT WE'VE BEEN ROPED INTO A SUCKER-DEAL, YOU CAN VISIT ME IN JAIL! I'LL BE THERE A LONG TIME FOR THIS!

I JUST KNOW THAT POOR KID WOULDN'T MURDER IN COLD BLOOD, KEN! SHE'S TOO DECENT! BUT WHO COULD HAVE DONE IT?





THAT'S NO MYSTERY! ONE GUY KNEW ABOUT DOLLY CRANE'S ATTEMPT TO SOLVE HER PROBLEMS WITH A GUN! ONE GUY CALLED THERE TO MAKE THREATS AND COULD HAVE SWIPED A HAND-KERCHIEF!

THAT AWFUL BOSTON BOGGS! OF COURSE, KEN!



PROVING IT WITHOUT INVOLVING THE CRANES WON'T BE SO SIMPLE, THOUGH! HE'S NASTY AND HARD TO PIN DOWN!

YOU'LL DO IT, KEN! YOU'RE A WONDERFUL DETECTIVE!



I LIKED MARTY CRANE! HE WAS A G.I., A NICE, CLEAN YOUNG GUY IN A JAM!

DOLLY TOLD ME ABOUT HER CRAZY STUNT AND WHAT YOU DID, MR. SHANNON! I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!

DON'T TRY! WE'RE FACING A TOUGHER PROBLEM NOW!



I GAVE IT TO THEM STRAIGHT, NOT PULLING ANY PUNCHES!

...AND THIS WAS LYING BESIDE THE BODY! RECOGNIZE IT?

IT'S ONE OF MINE! BUT I SWEAR I CAME STRAIGHT HOME FROM YOUR OFFICE AND HAVEN'T BEEN OUT SINCE!



I CAN SEE BOSTON'S IDEA! HE'LL STROLL IN WHEN THE COPS FIND THE BODY AND START YELLING ABOUT YOUR TRYING TO KILL HIM FIRST! HE MAY EVEN TELL THEM DEE DEE AND I WERE WITNESSES!

YOU'D HAVE TO ADMIT IT WAS TRUE! WHAT CAN WE DO, SHANNON?



I WAS GETTING THAT FEELING AGAIN... THAT SIXTH SENSE OF IMPENDING DANGER... AND I HAD TO PLAY OUT MY STRING!

THERE'S ONLY ONE OUT, KIDS! BOSTON TRIED TO FRAME YOU! WE'RE SURE HE'S GUILTY SO WE'LL FRAME SOME EVIDENCE ON HIM!

I... I DON'T LIKE IT! BUT THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO!



SURE I HAD THAT FEELING... BUT I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT IN TIME!

I DON'T LIKE IT EITHER, WISE GUY... AND THERE'S PLENTY I CAN DO!



ONE FUNNY MOVE OUTA ANYBODY AND THE SMART DAME HERE GETS IT RIGHT THROUGH THE NOGGIN! I'M IN TOO DEEP TO FOOL AROUND NOW!

YOU'LL BE DEEPER BY SIX FEET OF DIRT IF YOU TOUCH DEE DEE, YOU BUZZARD'S COUSIN!



I DIDN'T MAKE ANY PLAYS! HIS GUN WAS CENTERED, RIGHT ON DEE DEE AND AT THAT DISTANCE, HE COULDN'T MISS!

IT'S ALL MY FAULT! I GOT YOU INTO THIS!

SHADDUP! SHANNON'S BEEN ASKIN' FOR IT PLENTY! I HAD THINGS ALL WORKED OUT CUTE UNTIL HE STUCK HIS NOSE INTO IT!



I WAS GONNA LET 'EM PIN IT ON THE DAME, HERE, AND THEN I'D TAKE OVER MACO'S BUSINESS! THE DOUBLE-CROSSING LOUSE WAS CHEATING ME, ANYHOW!

I GUARANTEE YOU WON'T CHEAT THE ELECTRIC CHAIR, MUSCLE-HEAD!



I WAS GOADING HIM, GETTING UNDER HIS SKIN IN A FRANTIC EFFORT TO GET HIS ATTENTION OFF DEE DEE!

IF BRAINS WERE MILK YOU COULDN'T FATTEN UP A MICROBE, STUPID!

I'VE TAKEN ALL I'M GONNA TAKE OFFA YOU, SHAMUS! THEY CAN'T BURN ME ANY BROWNER FOR KNOCKING YOU ALL OFF... AND YOU GET IT FIRST!



I CAN STILL FIGURE AN ANGLE THAT'LL... EEEOWW!

HIT THE FLOOR, EVERYBODY! GET DOWN!



I'LL KILL YOU!

THAT WAS THE ORIGINAL IDEA! IT'S BEEN CHANGED NOW!



NOW LET'S CHANGE YOUR FACE, TOO! I NEVER DID LIKE IT!

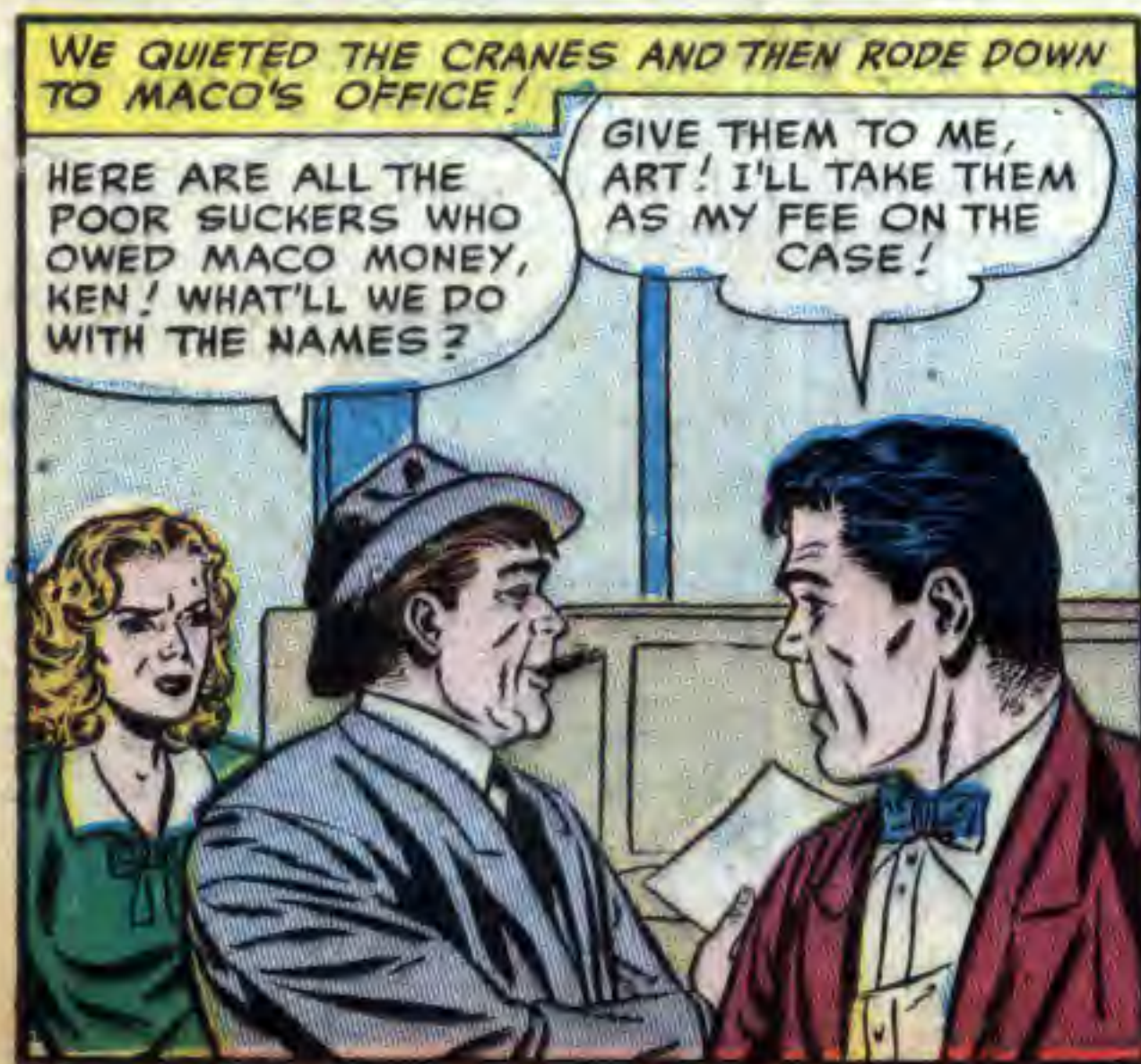
EEEEHHH!







IT WAS ALL OVER BUT THE SHAKES, SO I PHONED LIEUTENANT ART CLYDE OF HOMICIDE-- THE GUY WHO CLEANS UP MY MESSSES!





# MURDER HAS A GOLDEN TOUCH

**T**HE cold fingers of fear played on my spine as I groped my way through the abandoned warehouse. Then an earsplitting scream of terror echoed through the empty floors. I couldn't locate it, but I knew the girl was in the building and I knew the psychotic killer was holding her prisoner, as he had four women before . . . before he murdered them!

The reason a private eye was on this job and not the cops was because Margo Gillis signed me after her sister's tragic murder. She said she was being followed. She didn't haul in the police because they'd think she had an over-active imagination, she added. I had some doubt myself for the first week I tagged her. So far as I could see, she wasn't being trailed by anything but the faint scent of expensive perfume. Then when she came home from a dinner party, I hung around outside. I spotted a bent figure scurrying through the shrubbery surrounding her home. He peered first into the living room and then with a speed that could have come only by knowing the layout of the place, he climbed the large oak tree and hung from a top branch, looking into the lighted bedroom window. Margo's maid drew the drapes. By then I was close enough to see him in the light . . . young, crew cut, sport clothes, and sneakers. He slipped me by leaping from the tree to the ground and streaking out of sight. I stuck mighty close to Margo then. Never let it be said that Mike Masco takes his work casually. The killer had knocked off four society girls. They were all found strangled, floating in the river.

This night Margo was on her way to a charity meeting. It was in a dim section of town, traffic was heavy and she parked a good block away

from the place. He snatched her in the middle of that block. All of a sudden, she was gone. I was mystified until I saw the dark car move out. I followed.

Now, here I was, wandering around in unfamiliar territory, with only minutes to save her. I took a wild chance and fired a shot into the air. If the jerk was distracted, it might prolong Margo's life. It worked. A door creaked open on the floor above and I scooted beneath the staircase. He left the door ajar, I could hear Margo's frightened whimpering. A stair groaned. He was still in sneakers, noiseless as a cat. I heard him panting as he reached the bottom. He lit a match . . . this guy really was a nut . . . dropped it, and fell out of sight again. I couldn't move because the match had caught onto a rubbish heap and moments later, I was clearly outlined. I expected a shot, but instead, from behind, came a snarl and the gleam of a knife. He was powerful and vicious and before I knew it, my gun was wrested from my grip and the knife came around from behind. I remembered the sneakers and I stamped down . . . hard! He wailed and released his grip. I swung around and slugged him, hard again, and low. He came back for more and it took lots more to knock him out.

By this time, the wall was aflame and it wouldn't be long before the whole building would go up. Margo was hogtied and the garrote, a gold chain . . . expensive touch . . . lay nearby.

They put the guy away. Seems he had a yen for the high life and resented the wealth represented by society girls, so they became his victims. Margo's nerves are better, much better. We're doing the town together!

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) of KEN SHANNON, published Bi-Monthly at Meriden, Conn., for October 1, 1952

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Everett M. Arnold, Lucas Point, Old Greenwich, Conn.; Editor, Alfred Grenet, 347 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.; Managing editor, None; Business manager, Richard E. Arnold, 347 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member, must be given.) Comic Magazines, 578 Summer St., Stamford, Conn.; Everett M. Arnold, Lucas Point, Old Greenwich, Conn.; Claire C. Arnold, Lucas Point, Old Greenwich, Conn.

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(Signed) EVERETT M. ARNOLD, Publisher.  
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23rd day of Sept. 1952. (Signed) LOUIS J. KURIANSKY, Notary Public. (My commission expires April 1, 1954.)



PEOPLE DROP INTO MY OFFICE WITH THE STRANGEST REQUESTS! TAKE THE TALL GOOP WHO STOOD BEFORE MY DESK ONE SPRING MORNING AND ASKED ME TO...



FIND THE VENUSIANS WHO INVADED OUR CITY!

VENUSIANS? WHAT ARE VENUSIANS?







THAT DIDN'T SOUND TOO CRAZY! BUT AFTER SPENDING A WEEK TRYING TO GET A LIST OF NAMES, I BEGAN TO HAVE MY DOUBTS...

NOW WE'LL GO FROM DOOR TO DOOR TILL WE FIND THE VENUSIANS' OUTPOST!

DOOR TO DOOR! THERE ARE 10,000 NAMES HERE, PINCHOT! NOT COUNTING PEOPLE OUT OF TOWN!



BUT HOW ELSE ARE WE GOING TO FIND THEM?

I DON'T KNOW AND I DON'T CARE! I DON'T BELIEVE ANY VENUSIANS EXIST!



IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO KNOCK ON 10,000 DOORS LOOKING FOR INTERPLANETARY BOGEYMAN, YOU'RE CRAZY! HERE'S YOUR MONEY BACK! I QUIT!

BUT THE VENUSIANS WILL DESTROY US!



THEN GET SOME OTHER SHAMUS WHO DOESN'T MIND HOW HE EARNS A BUCK TO HUNT 'EM DOWN! COME ON, DEE DEE! I'M CLIMBING OUT OF THIS SNAKE-PIT!

BUT...



THERE WERE NO BUTS ABOUT IT... I WAS QUITTING! AND I DID... FOR TWO WEEKS! THEN ONE NIGHT, PINCHOT DROPPED IN WHITE AS A SHEET...

IT'S HAPPENED! THE VENUSIANS STRUCK! THEY KILLED MY INVESTIGATOR AND HEAVENS KNOWS WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE OTHERS!

PINCHOT... IF YOU DON'T SCRAM, I'LL CALL THE BOOBY HATCH!

WAIT, KEN! MAYBE SOMETHING IS WRONG!



I GAVE IN TO DEE DEE AND WE WENT DOWNTOWN WITH PINCHOT! HE LED US INTO A BACK ALLEY AND SHOWED US A CORPSE...

HOLY SMOKES! IT'S JIM EDSON! HE'S A PRIVATE EYE!

I HIRED FOUR PRIVATE DETECTIVES BEFORE HIM! THEY'VE ALL DISAPPEARED!



ACCORDING TO PINCHOT, THE GUMSHOES WERE INVESTIGATING THREE NAMES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD...

IF IT'S ONE OF THESE THREE ADDRESSES, WHY DON'T WE GET THE COPS AND RAID EACH JOINT?

BECAUSE WE'VE GOT TO KEEP THESE THINGS SECRET! THINK OF THE PANIC IF THE PUBLIC LEARNED THAT MEN FROM VENUS WERE RIGHT HERE IN TOWN!





THAT'S AS WHACKY AN ANSWER AS I'VE EVER HEARD! BUT I'M TAKING NO CHANCES! WHILE I'M KNOCKING ON DOORS, YOU TWO STAY OUT OF SIGHT!



SO I MOUNTED THE STEPS TO THE FIRST APARTMENT ON THE SUSPECT LIST...



I KNOCKED QUIETLY ON THE DOOR --- AS A GOOD GUMSHOE SHOULD AT 11 P.M.---

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

UH-OH! I'VE WALKED INTO A SMOOCHING SESSION!

ER...I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEBODY!



WHAT'S THE PITCH, MARY? I THOUGHT I WAS YOUR ONE AND ONLY BOY FRIEND?

Y-YOU ARE, HERB! I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT!

YOU'VE GOT ME WRONG, PAL! THE GUY I'M AFTER DOESN'T EVEN LOOK HUMAN!



THIS GUY IS A VENUSIAN! HE'S TWO FEET HIGH WITH A LION'S HEAD AND FROG'S LEGS AND HE HOPS AROUND LIKE A KANGAROO!

A WISE GUY, EH? TRYIN' TO INSULT MY GIRL AN' MAKE A MONKEY OUTTA ME! I'LL FIX YOU!



YOU WON'T COME KNOCKIN' ON THIS DOOR AGAIN!



SORRY TO SPOIL YOUR EVENING, MISS! IF YOU SEE A VENUSIAN, HOLLER!





THE SECOND ADDRESS TURNED OUT TO BE AN ALL-NIGHT POKER SESSION...

WHATTAYA WANT?

IF YOU MUST KNOW... A VENUSIAN!

HEY! I KNOW THAT GUY! HE'S A SHAMUS! HIS NAME IS SHANNON! KEN SHANNON!



HE MUST BE SHADOWIN' US TO SIC THE COPS ON US!

DON'T BE CRAZY! I'M LOOKING FOR SOME GUYS FROM THE PLANET, VENUS!

HE'S A COMEDIAN! GET HIM BEFORE HE CALLS THE COPS!



MY ONE REGRET IS THAT YOU GUYS AREN'T VENUSIANS! THIS IS WHAT I'D LIKE TO DO TO THEM!



OKAY, SHAMUS! Y-YOU WIN! I'M A VENUSIAN! I'M ANYTHING... JUST DON'T HIT ME AGAIN!

AW, SHUT UP! GO GET LOST IN INTER-PLANETARY SPACE!



YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW DISGUSTED I WAS WHEN I CAME DOWNSTAIRS! BUT THE DISGUST TURNED INTO FEAR WHEN I FOUND DEE DEE AND PINCHOT MISSING!

HERE'S HER PURSE! SHE MUST'VE DROPPED IT WHEN... GASP! TEN TO ONE IT'S THAT THIRD ADDRESS!



I WAS AFRAID OF BEING WATCHED, SO I WALKED AWAY, THEN DOUBLED BACK ON MY TRACKS AND MADE MY WAY TO THE THIRD ADDRESS ACROSS THE ROOFTOPS!



NOW THAT DEE DEE'S LIFE WAS IN DANGER, I WASN'T INTERESTED IN HOW CRAZY PINCHOT'S THEORY WAS... BUT IN HOW I COULD SAVE DEE DEE BEFORE SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENED! SO I LEFT MY SHOES ON THE ROOF...

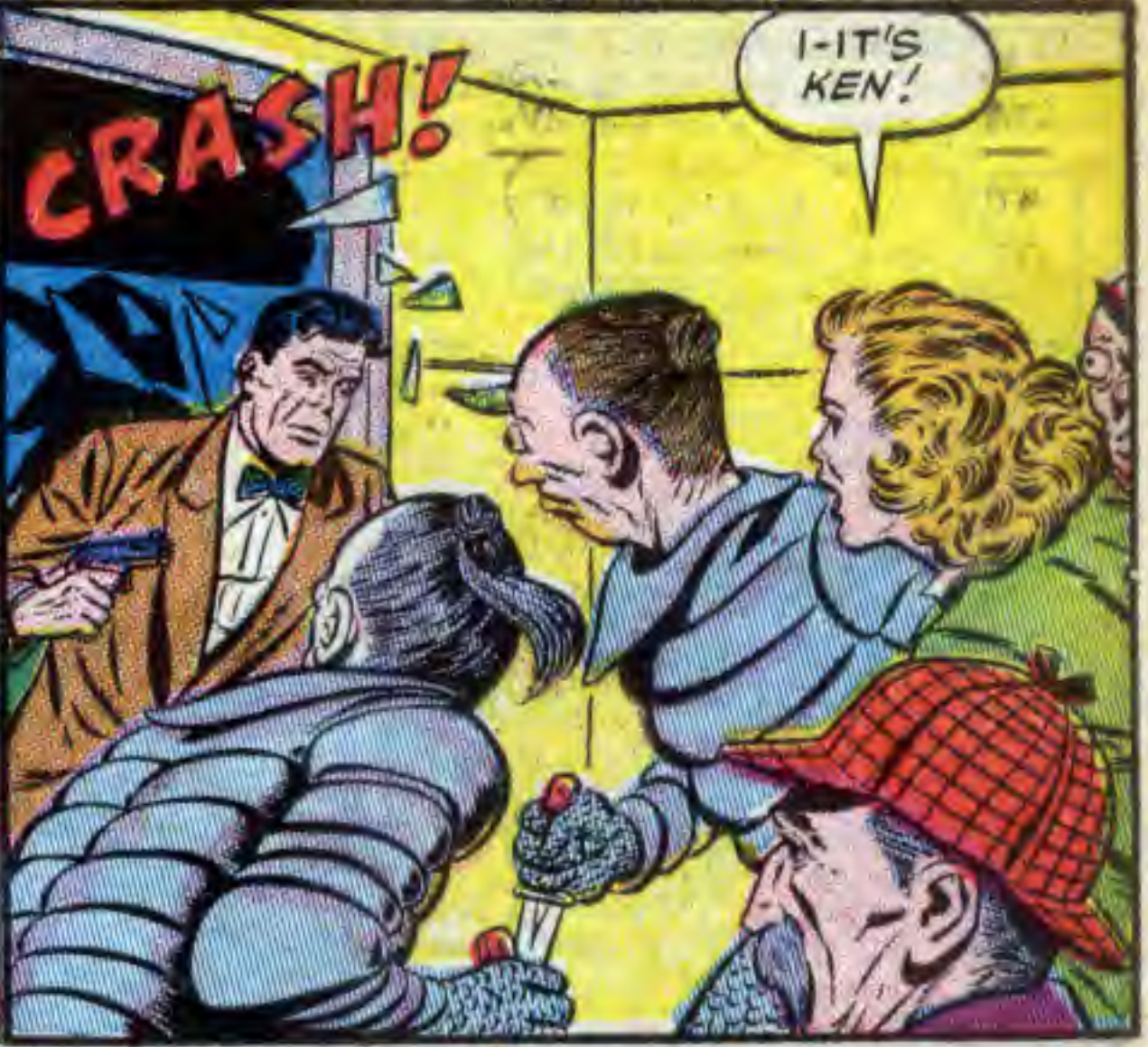
THESE INTERPLANETARY CUTTHROATS MIGHT BE ABLE TO HEAR A PIN DROP!





BUT AFTER MY FIRST PEEK THROUGH THE WINDOW I COULD'VE KICKED MYSELF FOR NOT BELIEVING PINCHOT!

¡GASP! THE V-VENUSIANS! THERE ISN'T A SECOND TO LOSE!



I-IT'S KEN!

I THINK YOU BOYS UNDERSTAND ENGLISH! YOU MUST IF YOU READ OUR PAPERS! I'LL SHOOT IF YOU DON'T SURRENDER!

THEY'RE NOT LISTENING TO YOU, SHANNON! FIRE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!



YOU'RE RIGHT! THESE SPACE-MEN PLAY FOR KEEPS!

URGHH!

YIIII!



EAAA!

D-DON'T SHOOT! WE GIVE UP!

WONDERFUL! VICTORY IS OURS!



SUDDENLY PINCHOT DID AN AMAZING THING! HE STRIPPED OFF HIS MUFFLER AND COAT...

¡GASP! LOOK! HE'S NO AMERICAN! HE'S FROM SATURN!

AYE! FROM SATURN! YOUR MORTAL ENEMY! FOR A CENTURY WE SATURNINES HAVE TRIED TO BEAT YOU VENUSIANS TO THE CONQUEST OF THE EARTH!



WE KNEW YOU VENUSIANS HAD LANDED HERE... SO THEY SENT ME TO FIND YOU AND TO EXTERMINATE YOU... LIKE THIS!

STOP HIM, KEN! HE'LL BUTCHER THEM!

IAAA!







MY HUNCH WAS CORRECT! NO SOONER "WERE VENUSIANS" AND "SATURNINES" SAFE IN THEIR PADDED CELLS, WHEN WHITE-JACKETED ATTENDANTS FROM A LOCAL INSANE ASYLUM ARRIVED TO CLAIM THEM! THE FOLLOWING NIGHT...





SOLDIERS SAILORS WACS MORTARS MARINES PT BOATS HOWITZERS

TRUCKS  
CANNONS  
BOMBERS  
TANKS  
CRUISERS  
BATTLESHIPS  
PT BOATS  
MARINES  
WAVES  
WACS  
SAILORS  
SOLDIERS

SOLDIERS  
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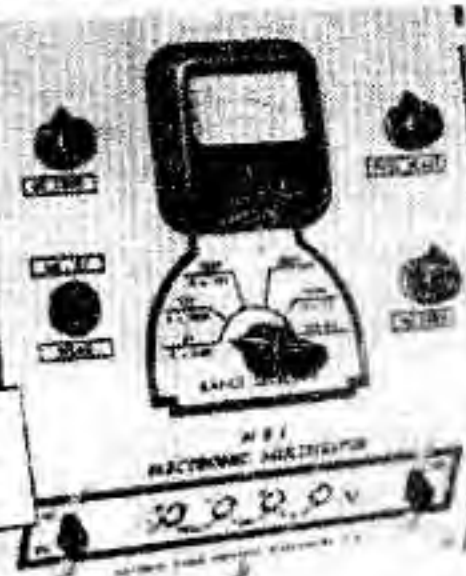


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